

**§ 159a.25 Systematic review.**

(a) *Assistance to the Archivist of the United States.* The Secretary of Defense and the Secretaries of the Military Departments shall designate experienced personnel to assist the Archivist of the United States in the systematic review of classified information. Such personnel shall:

(1) Provide guidance and assistance to National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) employees in identifying and separating documents and specific categories of information within documents that are deemed to require continued classification; and

(2) Refer doubtful cases to the DoD Component having classification jurisdiction over the information or material for resolution.

(b) *Systematic Review Guidelines.* The Director of Security Plans and Programs, ODUSD(P), in coordination with DoD Components, shall review, evaluate, and recommend revisions of DoD Directive 5200.30<sup>9</sup> at least every 5 years.

(c) *Systematic Review Procedures.* (1) Except as noted in this subsection, classified information transferred to the NARA that is permanently valuable will be reviewed systematically for declassification by the Archivist of the United States with the assistance of the DoD personnel designated for that purpose under paragraph (a) of this section as it becomes 30 years old. Information concerning intelligence (including special activities), sources, or methods created after 1945, and information concerning cryptology created after 1945, accessioned into the NARA will be reviewed systematically as it becomes 50 years old. Such information shall be downgraded or declassified by the Archivist of the United States under E.O. 12356, the directives of the ISOO, and DoD Directive 5200.30.

(2) All DoD classified information that is permanently valuable and in the possession or control of DoD Components, including that held in Federal Records Centers or other storage areas, may be reviewed systematically for declassification by the DoD Component exercising control of such information. Systematic declassification review

conducted by DoD Components and personnel designated under paragraph (a) of this section shall proceed as follows:

(i) Information over which the Department of Defense exercises exclusive or final original classification authority and that under DoD Directive 5200.30, the responsible reviewer determines is to be declassified, shall be marked accordingly.

(ii) Information over which the Department of Defense exercises exclusive or final original classification authority that, after review, is determined to warrant continued protection shall remain classified as long as required by national security considerations.

(3) Classified information over which the Department of Defense does not exercise exclusive or final original classification authority encountered during DoD systematic review may not be declassified unless specifically authorized by the agency having classification jurisdiction over it.

(d) *Systematic Review of Classified Cryptologic Information.* Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, systematic review and declassification of classified cryptologic information shall be conducted in accordance with special procedures developed in consultation with affected agencies by the Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service, and approved by the Secretary of Defense under E.O. 12356 and DoD Directive 5200.30.

(e) *Systematic Review of Intelligence Information.* Systematic review for declassification of classified information pertaining to intelligence activities (including special activities), or intelligence sources or methods shall be in accordance with special procedures to be established by the Director of Central Intelligence after consultation with affected agencies.

**§ 159a.26 Mandatory declassification review.**

(a) *Information Covered.* Upon request by a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien, a Federal agency, or a State or local government to declassify and release such information, any classified information (except as provided in

<sup>9</sup>See footnote 1 to § 159a.3.